Lucien's Chronicles

A Quantification
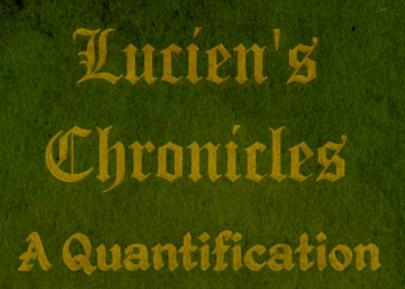

Lucien's Chronicles

A Quantification

2018 Manpaint

Lucien's Chronicles

A Quantification
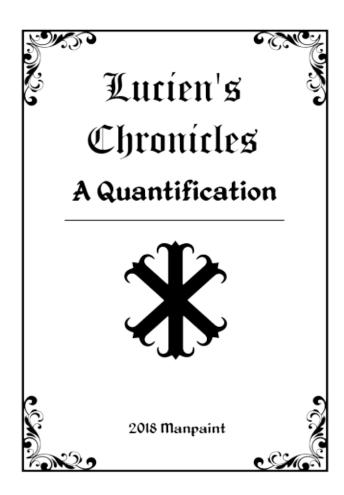
2018 Manpaint

Written by Lucien (Year 27 of Slyph)

I do not know who you are, nor why you are reading my journal. You may dismiss this document as a piece of propaganda of the Opposition movement, but it is the truth. You may ask how I would know such thing right? Well if you didn't ask yourself that question, then shame on you! The lack of questioning is what drove this society into what it is today. The only word to describe such society would be a dystopia, at least from my perspective. I am not a normal citizen in this world, I am one of Architech's executive. My name is Lucien and I will tell the story of Dymunia and its people, what *really* happened.

ARCHITECH

Chapter I

Control

Our story begins in the year 13 of Slyph with the new CEO of Architech, Bill Rwright. Architech was a large technological company which is responsible for the smartphones and computers operating systems of today. When its founder, Mark Rwright passed away, one of his sons inherited the position of Chief executive officer. This when an unexpected turn of event happened. Bill Rwright decided to run for president. Normally in our country, Upirkly, there was two major political parties: The Right and The Left, normally any third party can never get any sort of significant political power but that wasn't the case with him. People loved him, everyone was cheering for him. I could see his face on posters everywhere. This when I noticed something very wrong that most people just didn't notice. All major mainstream media where in favor of him, all of them. Normally, some would be naturally against, but here it just wasn't the case. Even the leaders of The Left and The Right were in favor of him and decided to not run. The election campaign was... peaceful would I say at least. Usually both major parties would be busy calling each other's demons and stuff but, in this campaign, there was almost no opposition. I say almost because there was one, simply called The Opposition, it wasn't very popular and the fact that didn't got much press coverage did not help either. But anyway, the political party of Architech won and was reelected again during The Final Election. You may wonder why it is called such , the reason is simple: democracy was abolished. On the year 21 of Slyph, democracy was officially abolished as a constitutional right by the Supreme Assembly of Dymunia. This where everything started to go downhill. The problem with the people in this world is that they see only alignments in black in white; either you are "good" or "evil ". They fail to understand that normally every action has a motive behind it. People see Bill Rwright and Architech 's party as good Samaritans that can do no wrong. I think this is mostly due to the fact that his campaign was very environmentally focused, unlike most politicians within the old system. Of course, it is technically a good thing, but he is smart, he uses the problem as a double-edged blade. An example of this is electric cars. It is uncontested that electrical cars are better than the old ones environmentally-wise. Bill passed a law that required the use this type of car. In the public eyes it is a good move to protect the environment as it greatly reduces gas emissions and they are right. What they don't ask themselves is how such thing was even allowed to happen in the first

place. Normally some compagnies would be extremely displeased by this law as it enormously hurt their profits. Yet they were silent. The answer is simple: surveillance. The cars are equipped with a GPS and a hidden cameras and microphones, this data is then sent somewhere but ultimately end up in the hands of Architech. I know because I work as a data analyst for Architech, I can see the life of all the citizen of Upirkly. Privacy simply don't exist anymore.

Chapter II

Information

Surprisingly, most people just don't care even if they acknowledge the technological omnipresence. They exchanged their privacy for an illusion of security. The others day I was eating a chocolate bar in a bench inside a shopping mall. I saw a group of teenagers who were mocking someone in their group. I didn't know exactly what the context was, but from what I heard, they humiliated him because of something they did when he was seven. This generation is the first to have their live recorded on the Internet. Their parents post about them on a social media platform called SocioCloud from a very young age. I never personally got what exactly attract people on these types of website, but I think it is mostly because you are see as an abnormal if you don't have a profile. They willingly hands over personal details about themselves to the public to see. I have multiple task to do within the Architchian administration but one of them is to classify people into multiple categories. SocioCloud is owned by Architech so of course we have access to the data. I also need to classify those who are said to be "deviants", those who don't have a SocioCloud account or simply don't like the current administration. After a long day of work, I like to open a book and read a little bit, and I mean physical books not those eBooks. I have quite a large collection of them, maybe even the biggest in Upirkly. Normally, any library would surpass my collection if they would still exist. Due to multiple cuts in tax funding, all libraries were eventually closed down. Only private collections remains. The printing of books was also made illegal, supposedly for environmental reasons. In school, a huge push was made to modernize them. Nowadays students don't learn by writing things down, they learn by typing it into a tablet. I prefer having a physical collection rather than a virtual one. Most books were digitalized and put into a massive online library. As it is stored online, information may be eventually "rectified" without notice. Sure, you could download them locally into your computer and compare them if you saw a change, but no one have the time and patience to do such thing. Most people get their news from either the television or the Internet. Architech does not only control information, it also floods people in a sea of irrelevance. What matters the most about information is the quality of it. You may be able to find what you search for, but you would have to search through mountains of useless information. Back in the day, people would say to not trust what you see on the Internet. In the present day they believe what they see in their SocioCloud feed.

They are blissfully ignorant on how easy it is to fabricate stories and lies. As a member of the government in charge of narrative control, we know exactly which sites are potentially harmful to our agenda. We could have chosen to simply make them disappear on search engines, but we decided to employ a different method instead: throttling. We force internet service providers to white list sites that are acceptable and throttle everything else. By doing so, people are subconsciously directed to sites with better "performance" that will gradually change their perceptions.

Chapter III

Illusion

Architech is large but doesn't own everything. It is only the façade. The true threat is an organization called The Conclave. You see in the "official" world there is what we call we call product diversity. Sure, there is a bunch of monopolies but there is also a range of product from diverse compagnies; they are lobbyists. But what if I told you that it was just an illusion? Well at least their rivalry is an illusion. The Conclave is a group of rich people that have ties either directly or indirectly in every companies. People often think the Architechian administration is a deliverance from the old corrupted political system. It was just a mere play, they achieved so much because they were allowed to do it to gain public support. Bill Rwright is just a simple puppet. The Conclave is divided in three section: The Outer Conclave, The Inter Conclave and The Inner Conclave. The inner circle contains the richest individuals in all of Dymunia, The Inter Conclave are those who follow the order of the Inners and the Outer Conclave are those who receive order from the Inters. I am a member of the Inter Conclave but not for the reason you might think. Sure, I am what quite wealthy and the average citizen would easily call me a rich man. But it is because I may be data analyst at day, but I am an assassin at night. I was trained by the Conclave to murder anyone they order me to. I guess technically I am above the law because the Conclave own the courts and the judicial system. I am quite skilled at this job but in the recent years there wasn't much excitation. They were people who disagreed with the government but most of them ranted on obscure online forums on the Internet; they weren't much of a threat. Of course, the mainstream media executives were in the Conclave which explain why they were all in favor of Architech. During all this time, the citizens were fed with pure propaganda. The long-term plan of the Conclave was to divide the population into two parties (The Left and The Right) and make the rivalry between each extreme. Anyone with common sense understood that such tribalism would create more problem than solve it. The next step was to fabricate a third relevant party: Architech. I mentioned earlier that six year ago democracy was abolished, well it was because of a referendum. Yes, you read that right, democracy was abolished with a vote. It is ironic don't you think? Before I tell you how such thing even managed to happen, I need to explain how SocioCloud work in the first place. On this platform, you can anonymously upvote or downvote unlike the share and like function which is public. A video titled

'Here's why democracy is flawed' was produced by members of the Conclave. The video explained that the current political system was flawed because uninformed citizen was able to vote and usually just supported X person because he was in party Y. It was technically true, and most people also shared the same view. This when The Conclave started to weaponize the truth. To ensure that the video would get viral, an army of bot upvoted the video and thus, people voted to abolish it.

Chapter IV

Knowledge

As I was reading a book, someone knocked on my door. It was a postman, he gave me a sealed letter. I knew what the seal was. It was a letter from a member of The Inner Conclave. The letter simply read: 'Execute order #13 on Anonymous456' along with the signature of a man called Aleister Payne. Order 13 was the codename of the execution order. I had to kill whoever was that Anonymous456. I was finally getting some action. First, I needed to gather intel on this mysterious person. If he was against the Architechian administration, then he surely knew the amount of surveillance put in place. A quick research told me that it was rumored that he had a group of 90 followers that conspired against Architech. I could only find rumors, no doubt if such group existed it would not be accessible on public space. I had to find out who was in this group and infiltrate it. The next day at work I decided to take advantage of my position as a data analyst. My first step was to create an exhaustive list of all civilians in Upirkly and eliminate those who had a SocioCloud account, excluding those who had "deleted " theirs. After creating the list, I compared it to those who didn't bought any recent technological device in the last six years. This gave me a pool of roughly 150 people. Normally those are the ones who questions things, those who seek knowledge and truth. After thinking for a short while on how to name the category, I decided to go with the name Erudites. In the afternoon I ordered a "visual recognition checkup". In this city, there is street cameras everywhere. An artificial intelligence will match up the picture of the Erudites' driving license photos and compare it to the street images. The goal here was to see if some Erudites meet up somewhere. Even if their home is surveillance-less, they still have to work and go outside. All workplaces are equipped with cameras, it is an obligation by law. I didn't mention yet, but this society have a "Contribution to Society" (or CTS for short) score. It is basically a score based on how long you work. If the score is constant for too long a citizen may temporally lose advantages. One could be denied medical care or the price of products would be inflated for them and more. Everyone after the age of 18 is required to have one. The score can be publicly consulted and pretty much serve to ensure that everyone is busy so that any potential revolution would not be able to happen due to the consequence of losing some CTS score. Anyway, the process to find any potential meetup would not be finished before tomorrow. Once all my task done I started to bike my way to home. As I went through a

park I found a body and stopped to examine it. It was the corpse of a young girl that probably was sixteen or seventeen years old. I don't exactly remember what it was, but she drank something toxic for her for sure. It was a suicide. Her phone was laying on the ground and I opened it by curiosity. Luckily it wasn't locked. The SocioCloud app was open, she had a social score of -257. I don't know what exactly happened but no doubt she was bullied. Many people fail to realize how nefarious such platforms are for mental health.

Chapter V

Paradigm

After calling the Architechian Security Forces and explained what happened, I finally made my way back home. I was contemplating how much weird this society was. People carry on them mini-computers that could access an infinite amount of information nearly anywhere. Yet people use it to watch cat videos. I was wondering if technology had enslaved us and made us lazy. Unlike most people, I didn't have a smartphone, I personally hated the interface but perhaps my fingers are simply too big. I complained but I am also one of those who contributed to creation of such society. You may ask why I would chose to do such thing and to be fair I ask the same question you do. I think I did it out of boredom. The problem is that it leaded to a greater boredom. People no longer have true opinions. They use social media to do their thinking. They had become "empty beings". Except for the Erudites. This society had become too boring for me and I chose to change it. It is ironic because the symbol of Architech is an ancient symbol called "mu" which represent emptiness if I am not mistaken. They were hiding their motive in plain sight. The next morning, I was notified that some Erudites were found meeting with each other's. On the street camera footage, I could see a man distributing scraps of paper to others Erudites. They did not talk much and just said "When the ravens will cry, the light will die". It was clearly a pass-phrase to verify if they belonged to their group. After work I went to see the man to receive one of those scrap. After taking it home I began theorizing on its content. It was a bunch of alpha-numeric characters that seemingly didn't made any sense. One hour after I realized what it was: a "magnet-URL" Those were a special type of URL that required a special Internet client to access it. Those type of website were not accessible using regular search engines, this what the public refer as the "Dark Web". After accessing the website, I found myself in the livestream of that Anonymous456 which had 102 viewers according to the counter. The person streaming had a basic white mask, green eyes and brown hairs. That was enough information for me to hunt him down. I made multiple screenshots and put them on my USB key. Once I was back to work I started comparing the driving license of the Erudites with the man on the livestream, I quickly found it was a man named Stefen Hallow that lead the group. After a quick search in the database I found out where he lived. Once my work was done I started to track him down. I had a plan, not to kill him but change things. After finding his apartment, I stormed in. As expected, he was

doing a livestream. "Who in seven hells are you? " he yelled. "I am an agent of the government and I came here to terminate your life Stefen Hallow" I replied while showing my identity card. He looked absolutely terrified. I dragged out a small blade that I was hiding in my sleeve and pointed it at him. "Before you die I want to know what is your ideology" I asked. "Knowledge is power" he replied. "Then you will be the paradigm of the new world ." I said, before slitting his throat with my sharp blade. Stefen Hallow fell down in pain. I approached the webcam and said: "Tomorrow the CTS system will be down, if you desire to make change, protest tomorrow." I said. I then left the agonizing Stefen on the floor, cutting his phone wire while passing by. The revolution was about to begin. Once back at my apartment I checked multiple site to see if the video of me killing him had proliferated. It did. I also stumbled across the news story of the girl that killed herself because of her negative score. Except in the presented narrative it was a murder, of course they needed to not damage the image of Architech. As I was about to grab a book for some reading, someone knocked on my door. It was Aleister Payne. "You have some explaining to do." He calmly said. Aleister trusted me but still wanted some explications. "As you noticed, there still some opposition to the Architechian World... I an going to crush and destroy their will to revolt. " "How will you proceed?" he asked. "We will shut down the Internet, impose a media coverage ban." I explained. "And kill them all" I concluded.

Chapter VI

Power

As I was navigating through the Black Tower (government building) to my office, I met Bill Rwright. He whispered "Kill Aleister if you can." The puppet had decided to cut his strings. I nodded and continued the way I was going. Once in my office, I gave the order to take down the CTS system. People on the Internet quickly started to complain. The Internet Service Providers were ordered to shut down the Internet in Upirkly. After doing this, I went to the shopping mall. It was around 1 PM, when the protest was planned to begin. I went to a terrace where Aleister Payne along with two body guards were already waiting for the protest to start. About a hundred protester showed up. What was a peaceful protest was about to turn into a violent one. The Architechian police force started shooting protesters. I heard the scream of the Erudites who were running in all directions. I then noticed smoke and asked Aleister Payne about it. "We are going to frame them as a bunch of terrorists. " he replied. I nodded. Bill then suddenly ordered the police to stop the massacre. Aleister abruptly got up and yelled: "What he is doing?!" It was the perfect moment. I dragged out my blade and attempted to slice his throat. But I missed. He ordered his bodyguards to shoot at me. I flipped a coffee table to protect myself from the bullets, as the bodyguard were about to shot me, the Architechian Security Force neutralized Aleister and his bodyguards. I had ordered them to stay nearby to defend me. The massacre meanwhile had successfully stopped thanks to the president intervention. I was now the Leader of the Inner Conclave. I took Aleister's place. I was now the most powerful man on Dymunia. I ordered the media to be silent and dropped the terrorist narrative. There was a lot of rumors on what happened this November 21 in front of the Black Tower. Surveillance camera footages were "corrupted". Only speculation could be heard of. A new era was about to begins. But first I had to seek the truth.

Chapter VII

Truth

As I said earlier, everyone has a motive, someone is simply not evil for the shake of it. What I was seeking is the motive of Aleister Payne to push his globalist agenda. I was accompanied with Stefen Hallow to examine Aleister's office. Yes, he was alive, I guess I didn't sliced deep enough. I would like to say "I planned everything" but it simply wasn't the case. But regardless, people needed to think he was dead in the official world. "I don't like your methods." he said. "Of course, but it was necessary to create a catalyst of opposition" I replied. "Things will not change I said, we will still live in a dystopia, you will not be able to change the way people think easily." I replied. I then stumbled across a document titled 'The Exodus' that caught my attention. This document contained the truth, and it wasn't pretty. The public was being lied about the severity of climate change. The document described how climate change would inevitably make our planet inhabitable to by the year 40 of Slyph. Their plan was to make an exodus to an underground and autonomous city where they could protect themselves from the consequences of their greed. After all, it is pretty much their fault why climate change got to this point. Their plan was to commit bio-terrorism and save the rich and exile themselves while letting everyone else die. "What we will do now?" asked Stefen Hallow. "I am going to reveal the truth to the president, continue to search for more documents meanwhile." I said. As I was ascending the stairs in front of the Black Tower, I asked myself the following question: What define the worth of a being? I was going to execute Aleister's plan, but I will not save the rich. I will save those who had the decency to seek knowledge. Greed is what made climate change a problem in the first place, saving the rich would only create a loop in history. I desire change. As I arrived in Bill Rwright's office he was looking at Upirkly through his windows. I dropped the document on his desk and said: "Here is the truth, use the knowledge inside it wisely. " I declared. Once returned to my office, I could see that most people on social media dismissed the massacre as a mere rumor. Nothing had changed. Obviously, not everyone will be able to be saved from climate change. I started to classify the name of the Erudites into a category called 'chosen'. But then I said that I would inevitably have to quantify their worth to determine who to save. I don't think the social or Contribution to Society score are a good measure of worthiness. Sure, I could write an algorithm to determine who is the most likely to ask questions and generally be a good

member of society, but would you like to have your life judged by a computer? Once I got back to my place, I posted on various forums the scan of the document that I made before giving the original to Bill. People would decide their own fate. I wrote this document to keep a record of what happened to our society. I do not know what will happened next. Time will tell and hopefully history will not repeat itself once again.

END